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**Newsletter**

**Number 19**

**1 July 2011**



**Website** [www.matarau.school.nz](http://www.matarau.school.nz)

**Phone / Fax** (09) 433 5823 **Email** – [admin@matarau.school.nz](mailto:admin@matarau.school.nz)

**Thanks**

.. to those parents who have already returned interview appointment forms.

.. to those parents who offered to help support our middle school rippa rugby teams today, which unfortunately, was cancelled but a probable pp date has been set for 15 July. Will keep you posted.

**People of the week**

.. Melissa and Grace who won team division and overall international champion awards at this year's International Cheerleading Competition. Grace's stunt team came second and Grace won the individual jumps competition with Melissa achieving second place. We are very proud of the achievements of these dedicated girls who are now WORLD FAMOUS. Well done girls!

.. Eve who has won "Player of the Day" for soccer so many times she must surely be destined for great things.

.. Ethan who is showing stratospheric progress in the after school reading labs.

.. Dylan who shot his first hoop today (and he is only 5!).

.. Olivia who has been so kind to her mum by helping with lots of chores at home - AND WITHOUT BEING ASKED!

.. Brad, Luke and Max who made it in to the Under 10 Rugby Reps. Well done and good luck for the season!

.. Kayleigh for receiving "Most Improved Jnr Rider" for Whakapara Pony Club. Previous week "Player of the Day" for Matarau Magic was Grace and last weekend "Player of the Day" went to Olivia.

*Please let the office know of any special achievements so that we can celebrate these together. Also we are keen to hear of shining examples of the kindness virtue .. so .. please keep us informed.*

**CURRENT VIRTUE .. KINDNESS**

Don't forget to keep this on the boil at home. Re-visit the support material from time to time and let us know of stand out examples of kindness so we can put these in the newsletter. Some children have virtues tasks in their homework books and so please check on these from time to time.

**Mid Year Ballot for Out of Zone Students**

The Board has decided to run a mid-year ballot for out of zone enrolments (as advertised in this week's Whangarei Report). Please note that the **final date for mid-year enrolment applications is 22 July** with the ballot (if one is necessary) being held 27 July. Our goal is to replace those children departing mid-year and thus hold staffing and funding at present levels. **If you know of anyone who might be interested please ask them to contact our school office. It might be easier to get entry at mid year than in the end of year ballot.** We are more than happy to answer any questions and to show people around the school.

**Forthcoming dates to note**

.. 5 July Choir to Hurupaki School

.. 11 July School Science fair

.. 11/12 July Mid year parent / teacher interviews

### **Measles Epidemic ??**

Some of you will be aware of a measles outbreak in Auckland. While the numbers are relatively small, there is clear potential for this to spread. The Ministry of Health has requested ..

.. that parents let their child's school know if their child has been recently immunised so that the Immunisation Register can be updated

.. that you contact your GP to arrange immunisation if your child has NOT been immunised (apparently 95% of those immunised are fully protected)

.. that you watch out for symptoms of fever, cough, runny nose, sore red eyes and a rash and contact your child's GP if something warrants investigation.

Parents are also advised that the Medical Officer of Health can require non-immunised children who have had contact with someone who has measles to remain at home for up to 14 days.

Further information can be obtained by phoning Healthline on 0800611116 or the Immunisation Advisory centre on 0800466863.

### **Portfolios**

Please note that these will be issued on Monday 4 July and not Friday 1 as earlier advised. A reminder that parents will need to bring these with them to parent / teacher interviews.

### **School Recipe Book**

.. is now being compiled. We would still love more recipes or helpful hints and so please send these in to the school office.

### **Assisting with Fund-Raising Events**

If phoned and you are unavailable for the job you initially volunteered for we understand .. **no problem** .. **but please indicate where else you could help.** Even a small contribution shares the load.

### **After School Reading Labs**

Please note that After School Reading Labs will not operate in the final week of term due to parent / teacher interviews and a generally pretty busy week. As a number of parents have expressed interest in the progress of their children in these labs Kevin will make himself available during parent / teacher interviews on 11 and 12 July to share results, discuss specific needs and answer any questions. Interested parents are invited to drop by to Kevin's office on their way to and from interviews (no appointment necessary).

### **After School reading Labs - Term 3**

We are pleased to advise that After School Reading Labs will continue into term 3. Children currently in the programme have priority entry to term 3 places. If you would like your child to continue please advise the school office by Monday 4 July by returning the consent sent home this week, or by leaving a voice message - please note that if we have not heard from you by Monday your child's place will be offered to another child.

### **Miss Hewitt**

.. returns to school 6 July.

### **Client satisfaction surveys**

We will shortly be surveying randomly selected parents for feedback on various elements of service delivery at Matarau School. If you are selected please take the 10 minutes or so to give us some feedback. More to follow.

### **Dental Caravan**

Remember that messages for the diagnostic clinic can be left at the school office. Where a message is left, your child should be seen within a week. For more urgent cases please phone the Whangarei Hospital on 4700012.

### **20 Hour Famine**

A small number of children have still not returned booklets / money. Please get this to us on Monday so we can bank this. Thank you for supporting this programme.

### Headlice - notice of re-infestation

In spite of efforts earlier this term it does appear that headlice have reappeared with a bit of a vengeance. Whole school inspections take place only once a term and so we appeal to all parents please to ..

.. **check their children's hair this weekend.**

.. where there is evidence of reinfestation **please treat your child before their return to school on Monday.**

.. **please continue to check their hair weekly.**

We understand that a number of good treatments are available from the chemist and not all of these contain the conventional insecticide. Available at Kamo Unichem Pharmacy is an all natural product called "Moov" at a discounted price of \$24.99 (normal rrp \$29.99).

### Portfolios

As mentioned portfolios will be issued on Monday. It is intended that these further inform you of your child's progress in key areas of learning and that they form the basis of discussion at mid-year interviews. It is absolutely crucial that impressions on your child's progress and attainment are not based on data alone. While portfolios are more challenging to read than tables of numbers, portfolio samples can "speak a thousand words" - identifying gains and hinting at possible next steps.

**When your child's portfolio comes home please ..**

.. set a side a special time to view this with them - **ACTUALLY MAKE A SPECIAL APPOINTMENT WITH EACH CHILD**

.. ask them what they are **most proud of** (the portfolios have a boast section at the back)

.. ask them to show you their **greatest area(s) of improvement**

.. have a look at their Learner Journey sheet to see how they have progressed against the goals they (and you) set at the beginning of the year.

.. **be POSITIVE.** Praise them for their gains and tell them how proud you are of them.

.. show them how much they have improved compared with earlier samples (left hand leaf - most recent samples right hand leaf)

.. ask them where they would most like to improve and note this down

.. **note down any impressions you would like to further discuss with their teacher at mid-year interviews.**

.. this year portfolios contain new inserts which describe the national standards applicable (Reading, Writing and Mathematics) at your child's level of schooling. These describe some of the key things an average NZ child should be able to do and gives you some useful tips on how you can help at home.

**Please remember to bring portfolios with you to interviews.**

### Mid Year Data Reports

.. will be handed to you at interviews. More about these next week.

### Phone System

Please be patient when phoning the school as we only have two telephone lines. If someone is already leaving a message you will go in a loop. Perhaps hang up and try again later. Email is a good option for non-urgent messages (e.g. absences or teacher messages).

### Early closure

.. remember that school finishes at 2:30 PM on 11 and 12 July to provide a brief break before parent / teacher interviews. Please note that buses will run approximately 30-45 minutes early on these days. Parents who pick their children up from school are asked to do so at this earlier time please.

### Mid year Interviews

Confirmation of appointment times will be sent out early next week. Any queries (or if you have not received this by Wednesday) please contact the school office.

### Science FAIR - Senior School

Remember to check your child's homework book from time to time to see if extra support is needed.

**Completion date is Wed 6 July.** Please contact your child's teacher if you have any concerns or if your child seems to have "stalled".

### **School Science Fair**

.. will be open for viewing in the school hall 11 to 13 July. We encourage families to drop by on their way to or from mid year interviews to take a look at exhibits and perhaps participate in some activities. Prize Giving will take place at 7:00 PM in the hall (children receiving awards will be advised beforehand).

*This year's science fair is sponsored by OMAK MEATS.*

### **Innovations Art Display**

Room 9 Innovations class will have their art work on display in the Library during Week 11. We encourage all families to drop by and look at this awesome art work.

### **Preparation for the International Schools Maths and English Exams**

Please assist by ensuring that at least one practice paper is completed each week. We suggest you keep a record of scores so you can monitor progress. With just over one month to the English Exam (Tuesday 2 August) children should be gaining some momentum with their preparations. We will issue practice papers for the holidays.

### **High Vis Vests**

In spite of our best efforts a significant number of children are not bringing their vests to school. Please ensure children bring these to school each day as country roads (in fact any roads) can be hazardous places for children. Thanks to Helen we have acquired some additional vests which are on sale at the school office for the very low price of \$3.00 each (various sizes).

### **International Schools Competition - a useful tip!**

After your child has marked their English paper see if any incorrect responses cluster around a certain activity (or type of activity). Ask them to do these questions again. Observe their method of approach to identify what they might be doing incorrectly and make this an area for special assistance. Sometimes children repeat the same errors test after test. Direct instruction targeted at these errors can often yield a much improved score - and quite quickly. The same principle applies in the maths test. Sounds old fashioned but, asking them to repeat the same (or similar) questions a number of times until they get them right, can be a useful strategy. Good luck! (let Kevin know if these areas of difficulty persist and we will see what we can do).

**Cross Country** - The School event has been set for Monday 22 August (pp 23 August).

Te Horo Taniwha Challenge is set for 18 August. For those who qualify for Barge Park Interschool event, this will be held Friday 2 September.



**Lost Property** - There is a mountain of lost property. This will be laid out early next week so please drop by to check if you are missing anything. Items remaining on the final day of school will be donated to charities.

### **Situations Vacant**

Programme Manager required for SKIDS Matarau After School and Holiday Programmes, daily after school 2.30 - 6.00, Holidays 8.00am-6.00pm, please contact Caylee Grant - SKIDS Programme Co-ordinator, 09 5766602, 021 2877170, [caylee@skids.co.nz](mailto:caylee@skids.co.nz)



### **Community Notices**

**Work Wanted** - Phone Tony on 4335565. Anything considered.

**For Rent** - 2 bedrm cottage and sleepout in Ruatangata. New kitchen, recently decorated. \$220pw inc power and lawns. Ph Jenny 4355336 or (027)3258617.

**Bantam Polish Runners** - All roosters beautiful colours, free to a good home. Ph 435 0230.

**Cute Puppies** - Foxy Jack Russell X lab, 6 weeks old (already weaned) \$40 each. Ph Sarah 4335909 or 02102747487.

**Pakotai Community Fundraiser** - Tour of Kauri Gum Museum, Sat 9 July, Viewing by invitation only. For more info contact Sally on 4331594 or Pakotai School on 4331727 or email [office@pakotai.school.nz](mailto:office@pakotai.school.nz). All proceeds to Pakotai School Camp.

Dyslexia Awareness Week - Address by Laughton King, Educational, Child & Family Psychologist, who is dyslexic, Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> August, 7-9pm, St Johns Church, Kamo Rd, Door charge \$5 per person.

ASB Holiday Fun Football - Children 7-11, Mon 25<sup>th</sup> July to Fri 29<sup>th</sup> July, 9.30-12.30 daily, \$24 per session or \$90 for the week. Term 3 football available for 4-8yrs olds, Kamo High School, Gym 2, Wilkinson Ave. for more info on either activity contact Christina on 4377294 or email [Christina.taylor@nff.org.nz](mailto:Christina.taylor@nff.org.nz). To register either pay-on-line [www.nff.org.nz](http://www.nff.org.nz)

Kids Duathlon - Saturday 16 July, the first Grid Kids Duathlon to be held alongside the International Rally of Whangarei, Pohe Island. Enjoy a fun day out. For more information visit [www.rallywhangarei.co.nz](http://www.rallywhangarei.co.nz) and [www.gridkids.co.nz](http://www.gridkids.co.nz)

RockStar Holiday Half day activity - An exciting and rewarding activity packaged for the school holidays Location: Tutukaka. This activity is based around 4 hours of recording session for 4-5 children (8yr old plus) where each child will have the opportunity to prepare, rehearse and record a known song to add their individual talent to. The completed work will be transferred to a USB stick for each child to take home. Minimum of 4 participants. Parents welcome to sit in or leave their children with us. Price and more info on [www.universalrecords.co.nz](http://www.universalrecords.co.nz) or Swamp Studio 09 434 4414.

Marsden Bay Holiday Camp - Sun 17<sup>th</sup> July 2pm - Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> July 10am, \$160 per child, \$300 for two, \$370 for three in same family, lots of outdoor activities, Secret Agent 007 costume Party. To register or for further information contact Helena Lamason 09 4447456 or email [hlamason@hotmail.com](mailto:hlamason@hotmail.com)

School Holiday Cricket Program - 18-27 July, 10-3pm for 2 days, \$30 per day 8-13 yrs. Bellahomes Northland Cricket Centre. Ph 438 2400 or [www.northcricket.co.nz](http://www.northcricket.co.nz)

### And Finally

How do sheep keep warm in the winter? .. "central bleating"

***Kids, win 50 house points ! .. Final final week on this topic ..***

*.. What is the name of the Boticelli painting on display in the office foyer?*

*.. Where was Boticelli born?*

*.. When was the saxophone invented?*

Regards

Kevin Trehwella  
PRINCIPAL

Our Sponsors support your  
children, please support them



## **Comrie Park Kindergarten**

### **"Nga kakano apopo – The seeds of tomorrow"**

We will be opening on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> July. Our session times are 8.30am – 2.45pm, Monday – Thursday and 8.30am – 12.45pm on Fridays. We welcome all enquiries and enrolments, please phone 4335045 or simply call in.

Our teaching team are Anna Thorpe, Paula Shaw, Angie Moselen and support staff Kim Butterfield.

## **STILL TIME TO RAISE FUNDS - CASH FOR SCHOOLS BOBBY CALF FUND RAISING PROGRAMME**

If you haven't yet registered for AFFCO's Cash for Schools bobby calf fund raising programme, or if you've lost your registration form, don't worry - there is still time to get in behind this great programme and raise funds for the school. Last year AFFCO donated more than \$80,000 through Cash for Schools. This year it's putting on extra calf collections to make things easier for farmers during the busy spring period. To find out how you can get involved, phone 0800 722 422 today. Remember the donations are made over and above what AFFCO pays you for your bobby calves but you need to register before the school can benefit.



# *Annual Matarau School Trivia Night*

**(20 August 2011)**

If anyone is able to help with finding sponsorship or prizes for Trivia Night to contact Wendy Francis or Jane Martin , please contact Wendy on 435 4659 or Jane on 433 5967.

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## **MATARAU SCHOOL PROUDLY PRESENTS THE**

### **MIDWINTER MASQUERADE BALL**



Party the night away at the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Matarau School Fundraiser

Date: 16<sup>th</sup> July 2011

Time: 7.30 – 12.30

Band: Kamel

(over 20 years only)

Tickets: School Office/Wild Poppy

\$30 single \$60 double

Light supper will be served

With a licensed cash bar

Complimentary return bus leaving from Ramo 4 Square at 6.30pm, travelling to  
Ruatangata hall with pick ups on the way and return.

Bookings essential ph 4353002